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HARDWARE/SOFTWARE CAPABILITY RATING SYSTEM

ABSTRACT

Techniques and tools for rating computer products are described. For example,
5 software ratings are based on subjective evaluations to determine computer system
requirements for a positive user experience, while a computer running a capability tool
rates a computer system's (or hardware component's) ability to run software. A
capability rating for hardware is determined by comparing a set of features and
performance results with capability rating requirements. In another aspect, a capability
10 rating is communicated using a standardized presentation. In another aspect,
capability rating level requirements are proposed (e.g., by a ratings board) and then
finalized. A capability rating level is determined for computer products (e.g., by a
testing organization) based on the finalized requirements and analysis of the products
(e.g., by a computer running a capability tool). In another aspect, a software system
15 comprises an inventory module, a performance testing module, and an inventory and
performance evaluator module.